

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 -54. (Canceled)

55. (Currently amended) A method of removing fatty tissue while protecting nerves, comprising the steps of:
 exposing a portion of said fatty tissue;
 pressing said fatty tissue with a non-convex surface having at least one hole;
 extruding fat through said at least one hole, the hole being dimensioned to allow fat cells to extrude through while preventing nerves from passing therethrough; and
 cutting, using a blade, said-fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.

56. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 55, wherein said step of extruding fat further comprises the step of preventing nerves from passing through said at least one hole while permitting blood vessels to pass therethrough.

57. (Currently amended) A method in accordance with Claim 55, ~~wherein said step of cutting said fat further comprises cutting said fat with an electrocautery cutting element further comprising cauterizing fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.~~

58. (Original) A method in accordance with Claim 55, further comprising heating said fatty tissue at a time selected from the group consisting of prior to said cutting step, during said cutting step, and both prior and during said cutting step.

59. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 55, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located on a distalmost end of a wand.

60. (Previously presented) A method in accordance with Claim 55, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located proximal of a distalmost end of a wand.

61-91. (Canceled)

92. (New) A method in accordance with claim 55, wherein the hole has a diameter R, and said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, the ratio D/R being about 1.0.

93. (New) A method in accordance with claim 55, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and D is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.

94. (New) A method in accordance with claim 55, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and R is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.

95. (New) A method of removing fatty tissue while protecting nerves, comprising the steps of:

- exposing a portion of said fatty tissue;
- pressing said fatty tissue with a non-convex surface having at least one hole;
- extruding fat through said at least one hole, the hole being dimensioned to allow fat cells to extrude through while preventing nerves from passing therethrough; and
- cutting, using a shearing member, fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.

96. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 95, wherein said step of extruding fat further comprises the step of preventing nerves from passing through said at least one hole while

permitting blood vessels to pass therethrough.

97. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 95, further comprising cauterizing fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.

98. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 95, further comprising heating said fatty tissue at a time selected from the group consisting of prior to said cutting step, during said cutting step, and both prior and during said cutting step.

99. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 95, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located on a distalmost end of a wand.

100. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 95, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located proximal of a distalmost end of a wand.

101. (New) A method in accordance with claim 95, wherein the hole has a diameter R, and said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, the ratio D/R being about 1.0.

102. (New) A method in accordance with claim 95, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and D is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.

103. (New) A method in accordance with claim 95, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and R is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.

104. (New) A method of removing fatty tissue while protecting nerves, comprising the steps

of:

exposing a portion of said fatty tissue;
pressing said fatty tissue with a non-convex surface having at least one hole;
extruding fat through said at least one hole, the hole being dimensioned to allow fat cells to extrude through while preventing nerves from passing therethrough; and
cutting, using a scraper, fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.

105. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 104, wherein said step of extruding fat further comprises the step of preventing nerves from passing through said at least one hole while permitting blood vessels to pass therethrough.

106. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 104, further comprising cauterizing fat that has extruded through said hole on a side of said surface opposite said fatty tissue.

107. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 104, further comprising heating said fatty tissue at a time selected from the group consisting of prior to said cutting step, during said cutting step, and both prior and during said cutting step.

108. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 104, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located on a distalmost end of a wand.

109. (New) A method in accordance with Claim 104, wherein said step of pressing said fat layer further comprises pressing with a surface having at least one hole located proximal of a distalmost end of a wand.

110. (New) A method in accordance with claim 104, wherein the hole has a diameter R, and said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, the ratio D/R being about 1.0.

111. (New) A method in accordance with claim 104, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and D is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.

112. (New) A method in accordance with claim 104, wherein the hole has a diameter R, said fat is extruded a distance D through the hole having a diameter R, and R is from 10% less than the diameter of a nerve to be protected to 6 mm.